TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 16, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 11 totaled 19.5 billion ton-miles, up 5.2 percent from the 18.5 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987.

Cumulative volume for the first 23 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 437.7 billion ton-miles carried, up 8.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended June 11 totaled 435,648, up 2.8 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 14.2 percent above the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 0.7 percent in the East, and 5.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 13 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of metallic ores were up 4,147 cars (22.9 percent), crushed stone, gravel and sand loadings were up 3,110 cars (19.5 percent), and coke showed a gain of 1,266 cars (27.9 percent). Nineteen of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the holiday week ended June 4 totaled 100,671 trailers and/or containers, down 6.6 percent from the comparable non-holiday week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 22 weeks of the year was 2,369,579 trailers and/or containers, up 5.4 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/11/88:

	Loadings in Week ended June 11, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,879	D	429	1.3	I	5,975	22.2
Other farm products	3,992	D	624	13.5	I	473	13.4
Metallic ores	22,252	I	4,147	22.9	I	3,488	18.6
Coal	117,846	D	1,875	1.6	I	11,721	11.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	19,044	I	3,110	19.5	I	3,190	20.1
Nonmetallic minerals	10,550	I	519	5.2	I	752	7.7
Grain mill products	11,002	D	368	3.2	I	1,373	14.3
Food and kindred products	10,971	I	332	3.1	I	1,225	12.6
Primary forest products	10,030	D	757	7.0	I	1,442	16.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,931	D	706	8.2	I	1,102	16.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,323	I	120	1.0	D	432	3.4
Chemicals and allied products	26,956	I	551	2.1	I	3,004	12.5
Petroleum products	5,289	I	263	5.2	I	526	11.0
Stone, clay and glass products	11,542	I	323	2.9	I	1,556	15.6
Coke	5,797	I	1,266	27.9	I	368	6.8
Metals and products	10,419	I	1,630	18.5	I	79	0.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,555	I	1,148	5.4	I	3,649	19.3
Waste and scrap materials	9,771	I	747	8.3	I	1,677	20.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,439	D	335	12.1	I	253	11.6
All other carloads	82,060	I	2,761	3.5	I	12,871	18.6
Total Cars Loaded	435,648	I	11,823	2.8	I	54,292	14.2
Corresponding week of 1987	423,825						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (23 weeks)	9,661,981	9,109,281	I 6.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
22 weeks ended June 4	418.2 r	385.1	I 8.6
Week ended June 11	19.5	18.5	I 5.2
23 Weeks cumulative	437.7	403.6	I 8.4

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